

**Subject:**Unprofessional Conduct

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**From:**Bruce Laidlaw <[rblaw@umich.edu](mailto:rblaw@umich.edu)>

**To:**Christopher Taylor <[votetaylor2@gmail.com](mailto:votetaylor2@gmail.com)>, Postema, Stephen <[SPostema@a2gov.org](mailto:SPostema@a2gov.org)>, Jennifer Salvatore <[salvatore@sppplaw.com](mailto:salvatore@sppplaw.com)>

**CC:**Julie Grand <[JGrand@a2gov.org](mailto:JGrand@a2gov.org)>, Ali Ramlawi <[ARamlawi@a2gov.org](mailto:ARamlawi@a2gov.org)>, Kathy Griswold <[KGriswold@a2gov.org](mailto:KGriswold@a2gov.org)>, Elizabeth Nelson <[ENelson@a2gov.org](mailto:ENelson@a2gov.org)>, Jeff Hayner <[JHayner@a2gov.org](mailto:JHayner@a2gov.org)>, Lisa Disch <[LDisch@a2gov.org](mailto:LDisch@a2gov.org)>, Linh Song <[LSong@a2gov.org](mailto:LSong@a2gov.org)>, Travis Redina <[TRadina@a2gov.org](mailto:TRadina@a2gov.org)>, Erica Briggs <[EBriggs@a2gov.org](mailto:EBriggs@a2gov.org)>, Jen Eyer <[jeyer@mlive.com](mailto:jeyer@mlive.com)>

Ms. Salvatore, Mr. Postema, Mr. Taylor

When I was 13, I watched the Joe McCarthy hearings on television. When McCarthy tried to attack the reputation of a young lawyer. Attorney Joseph Welch said to him, "Let us not assassinate this lad further, senator. You have done enough. Have you no sense of decency?" I ask you three now: Have you no sense of decency?

With the help of persons unknown, you managed to compile a list of arguably insensitive comments by Tom Crawford. That was used as an excuse to fire him. He signed a termination agreement that didn't even provide the severance payment to which he was entitled. But you had to further assassinate him.

Having ruined Crawford's professional career, you contrived a new report accusing Crawford of illegal employment discrimination. I have searched City records and watched City Council videos, but have found no excuse for that report. I didn't find who authorized spending \$8,000 to prepare it. I can't think of any public purpose for creating it. It appears to have been a Joe McCarthy type of attempt to ruin the reputation of a dedicated public official.

I have had prosecutorial duties as a city, township and village attorney. I feel confident that if I authorized charges on the facts like those alleged in that report, I could expect a judge to sanction me for bringing frivolous charges. Grasping at straws, the report deals with a hiring before Crawford was appointed as City Administrator. It directly contradicts a finding in the first report. It was completely unprofessional.

As a member of the State Bar, I feel I have a duty to report highly unprofessional conduct by attorneys. The efforts of the three of you to attack the reputation of Tom Crawford were unprofessional. If you cannot rationally explain those efforts, I intend to file a grievance with the State Bar.

Bruce Laidlaw